

ROANOKE RIVER BASIN BI-STATE COMMISSION
Danville, Virginia
August 21, 2009

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission members present:

NC: Representative Lucy Allen, Representative Edith D. Warren, Larry Yarborough,

VA: Senator Frank Ruff, Senator Roscoe Reynolds, Delegate Thomas Wright, , Delegate Charles Poindexter, Haywood Hamlet, John Feild, Mike McEvoy

Staff present:

NC: Rick Seekins, Kerr-Tar COG; Tom Fransen, NC DENR; Tom Reeder, NC DENR; Steve Reed, NC DWR; Gene Addesso

VA: Tammy Stephenson, DEQ; Jason Ericson, DEQ

Virginia Roanoke River Advisory Committee: John Lindsey, Mark Wagner, Bob Jean, Billy Martin, Russ Johnson, Read Charlton

Mr. McEvoy called the meeting to order.

As Danville Deputy Manager Joe King was unable to attend, Barry Dunkley, Director of Utilities, welcomed everyone to Danville. He mentioned that Danville was providing lunch for everyone.

Minutes

Upon a motion by Senator Ruff, seconded by Mr. Hamlet, the minutes of the June 12, 2009 meeting were approved with unanimous vote.

By Laws

Initially, there was little discussion about the By Laws. Mrs. Stephenson mentioned that the legislation dictates the membership on committees, but does not legislate what committees should be forms. That was left up to the Commission.

Delegate Wright made a motion, which was seconded by Representative Allen, to adopt the By Laws. There was discussion.

Senator Ruff said he would like the By Laws to reflect that electronic voting would be allowed, by not called for or encouraged. This should only be used for issues that require timely action by the Commission. He would also like to give a time frame for responding should electronic voting be used. Mr. McEvoy suggested 10 days to respond. Senator Ruff agreed and called for the question.

Delegate Wright and Representative Allen agreed with the amendment to the motion. The Commission members present agreed unanimously.

It was noted that if electronic voting is used, background information on the issue and time frame for responding will be sent to Commission members.

Election of Officers

Representative Allen nominated Mr. McEvoy for the office of Chair. Mr. McEvoy said he appreciated it, but nominated John Feild. Representative Allen withdrew her nomination. Mr. Feild said he would be happy to serve. Delegate Wright seconded the nomination. Mr. Hamlet made a motion to close the nominations. Upon unanimous vote of the Commission members present, John Feild was voted as Chairman of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission.

Mr. Hamlet nominated Representative Allen as 1st Vice Chair. Senator Ruff seconded the motion. Mr. Hamlet moved to close the nominations. Upon unanimous vote of the Commission members present, Representative Allen was voted as 1st Vice Chair of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission.

Senator Ruff nominated Mike McEvoy as 2nd Vice Chair. Mr. Hamlet seconded the motion and moved to close the nominations. Upon unanimous vote of the Commission members present, Mr. McEvoy was voted as 2nd Vice Chair of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission.

Mr. McEvoy turned the meeting over to Chairman John Feild. Mr. Feild thanked everyone for the honor to serve in this position, adding that he had the pleasure of serving as the first chair of the Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee.

Committees

Mr. Feild suggested co-chairs, one from each state, to facilitate the committee meetings.

Mr. Yarborough asked how Virginia got various stakeholders involved in the committees. Mr. Feild said they looked at permit holders, both withdrawal and discharge, which were mainly municipalities. He said that John Lindsey chaired this committee, which will meet again once the mission is defined. Mr. McEvoy explained there would be new committee structure, with membership on the committees as dictated by the enabling legislation.

Delegate Poindexter said the committees should be set up along functioning lines and include all the interest groups. It was noted that committee members do not need to be Commission members.

Mr. Feild said he would like to tailor presentations to topics of interest in the entire basin. Chairmanship of the committees should be turned over to those who have institutional knowledge of that focus.

Mr. McEvoy made a motion to establish a Lake Interests Committee on the Commission. Senator Ruff seconded the motion. Mr. Feild said there is a Lake Interest Committee on

the Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee. The Commission agreed unanimously to form this committee.

Representative Allen suggested the Commission name the committees now and appoint members later.

Upon a motion by Delegate Wright, a second by Delegate Poindexter, and unanimous vote of the Commission members present, the following additional committees were established by the Commission: Permit Holders Committee, Roanoke River Basin Interests Committee, Public officials and Government Entities, and the Agriculture and Forestry Committee.

It was noted that the Ad Hoc Water Allocation Committee was established at the first meeting of the Bi-State Commission. Upon a motion by Mr. Yarborough, a second by Delegate Wright, and unanimous vote of the Commission, the Water Allocation Ad Hoc Committee was ratified.

Committee Reports

NC Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee

Representative Allen said that Senator Swindell sends his regrets for not being able to attend the meeting. She said there was some concern over Kerr Lake, so Gene Addesso set up a meeting to discuss Interbasin Transfers (IBT) at her request. She said there is currently proposed legislation on IBTs with protocol allowing citizen involvement. She added that many citizens were not aware that there are IBTs already in place. They plan to form a coalition to address issues like IBT, which would give a stronger voice.

VA Roanoke River Advisory Committee

Mr. McEvoy explained there will be a meeting this afternoon from 1pm until 3pm and will include a presentation on Virginia's Biosolids Program. Everyone is invited to stay for the meeting.

Water Allocation Ad Hoc Committee

Tom Fransen gave out a handout and explained the committee has had one meeting and is developing principles to consider in establishing an allocation protocol. The committee will be using the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin and Jordan Lake Water Supply Allocation Rules as models for the agreement.

After some discussion, it was suggested that there be a presentations on the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin and Jordan Lake Water Supply Allocation Rules at the next meeting.

Chairman Feild appointed Tom Fransen and Scott Kudlas as interim co-chairs of the committee until there is a recommendation to the Bi-State Commission.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in North Carolina. Members will be polled for available dates.

Other Business

Mr. Seekins reported that Lindley Butler resigned from the Bi-State Commission and the process is working for reappointment.

The meeting was adjourned.